

## **Task Force on the Future for Growth and Development in Maryland**

**October 27, 2008 / 10:00 AM – 4:00 PM**

**The Maryland Department of Planning**

**Baltimore, Maryland**

### **Meeting Summary**

*Members:* Jon Laria, Derick Berlage, Karl Brendle, David Carey, Sandy Coyman, Jan Gardner, Janet Greenip, Carol Gilbert, Teena Green, Rich Hall, Don Halligan, Frank Hertsch, Gerrit Knaap, Brigid Kenney, Vanessa Orlando, Dru Schmidt – Perkins

*Attendees:* Marty Baker (MDOT), Jamie Bridges (BMC), David Costello (Gov. Office), Candace Donoho (MML), Alan Girard (CBF), Dave Goshorn (DNR), Lisa Jackson (Gov. Legis. Office), Leslie Knapp (MACo), Steve Lafferty (MD Del.), Kim Lamphier (MDE), Susan Mitchell (MD Home Builders Assoc.), John Papagni (DHCD), Frank Principe (Balto. Co.), Ronda Ray (DBED), Kurt Sommer (DHCD), Victoria Woodward (Safe Waterways in MD)

*MDP Staff:* Amanda Conn, Peter Conrad, Nicole Diehlmann, Jahne Hunter, Jenny King, Nery Morales Ford, Matt Power, Shelly Wasserman

### **Opening Remarks & Administrative Matters**

The Chair, Mr. Jon Laria, welcomed Ms. Vanessa Orlando to the Task Force; she will be replacing Mr. David Jenkins as a member of the Task Force. Mr. Jenkins's hard work as a member of this task force was noted and greatly appreciated.

### **APFO Workgroup Recommendations**

Mr. Berlage, the Chair of the APFO workgroup expressed his appreciation MDP staff and the APFO work group members. Mr. Berlage presented each APFO workgroup recommendation. The recommendations are available on the Task Force's website, October 27, 2008 meeting: ([http://www.mdp.state.md.us/773/oct27/FINAL\\_RECOMMENDATIONS.pdf](http://www.mdp.state.md.us/773/oct27/FINAL_RECOMMENDATIONS.pdf)).

### **Comments & Concerns: APFO Workgroup**

- A member requested that State CIP be added to the recommendation 1B.
- There was some concern expressed that the group keep all recommendations specific, and remain cautious of overly general recommendations.
- There was concern with recommendation 3's use of the word "prioritize". The request was to clarify that its use did not mean place at the top.

- A discussion was held regarding APFO recommendation number eight and the specific language: “advantages and drawbacks of making school construction decisions subject to PFA review in the same way that other State spending decisions are made.” The Task Force requested further explanation on the exception process in order to further evaluate the recommendations. It was noted that most exceptions go through the Smart Growth Coordinating Committee although some get vetted through the Board of Public Works.
- A member noted that in general, the public moves towards schools and therefore an objective for this Task Force should be to make recommendations steering people to the most efficient places.
- Mr. Laria requested the APFO Workgroup further consider recommendations eight and nine and report back to the full Task Force.

#### PFA Workgroup Recommendations

Mr. Knaap, the Chair of the PFA Workgroup presented the PFA workgroup recommendations. The workgroup’s primary focus was centered on encouraging growth within PFAs, while discouraging growth outside of PFAs. The recommendations are available on the Task Force’s website, October 27, 2008 meeting: ([http://www.mdp.state.md.us/oct27\\_meeting.html](http://www.mdp.state.md.us/oct27_meeting.html)).

#### Comments & Concerns: PFA Workgroup Recommendations

- It was noted that PFAs and growth areas are similar in nature.
- MACo expressed some concern regarding legislative changes stemming from these possible recommendations. There was some discussion held as to whether recommendations would be enacted legislatively or administratively.
- A member expressed his preference for a tiered PFA approach and suggested that the Task Force should recommend tiering to address existing PFAs.

#### Draft Recommendations & General Comments

- There was great discussion on item number 2A, which varied from agreement, disagreement, and the suggested designation of MDP to take the lead. Also, in reference to 2D it is suggested that there be an informal meeting mid-way through the comprehensive plan process.
- Ridership was flagged as an issue because of the cost to park at some facilities. There was a need to ensure ease and reliability to use MARC.
- Mr. Laria noted that recommendation 4A came out of a Listening Session and that there should be a broader look at transfer of development rights. Some felt that 4A was overly narrow in that agricultural preservation should include a purchase transfer development right program. It was noted that 4A only focuses on agricultural preservation and it should be expanded to include greenprint and heritage areas.

- The Task Force went over section five which covered infrastructure. A member suggested that in 5D housing and jobs need to be aligned. A general comment was made that 5F would get changed by the APFO Workgroup.

#### Matrix Recommendations

Some members suggested amending recommendation number 5 to include housing, economic development, rural resource elements and to include local land use ordinances.

Another member requested that recommendation 9 be put on the shorter recommendations list.

A question was raised about the integration of the parameters for the three plans- development, housing and transportation. Some felt that the basis of the State Development Plan should be local plans and should be approved by the local elected officials.

#### Public Comments

None

The meeting adjourned at 4:00 pm.